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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/646,996	08/22/2003	Masayasu Fujii	FP03-049US	1590
1218	7590	02/07/2005	EXAMINER	
CASELLA & HESPOS 274 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10016			NGUYEN, CHAU N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2831	

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/646,996		FUJII ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Chau N. Nguyen		2831	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8-10 and 12-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by West.
(3,262,088).

West discloses a terminal fitting (Figure 12) being made of a conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising: a main body, a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body, and a wire connection portion (16) extending from an extending end of the coupling, wherein the coupling has reinforcing means (18) formed by folding at least one reinforcing plate from the main body into contact with the coupling and at least one fastener (22) folded from the coupling into engagement with a surface of the reinforcing plate facing away from the coupling (re claim 1). West also discloses the at least one fastener is folded being folded at lateral edges of the coupling (re claim 2), the coupling being formed with side walls (16a) at lateral edges of thereof (re claim 3), at least one of the side walls and the fastener being substantially continuous with each other along the lateral edges of the coupling (re claim 4), the wire connection portion (16) being a barrel with a bottom plate substantially continuous with the coupling and crimping pieces (32) standing up from lateral edges of the bottom plate, the crimping pieces and the side walls being substantially continuous

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with each other along the lateral edges of the coupling (re claim 5), a terminal fitting made of a conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising: a main body, a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body, the coupling being formed with a narrow reinforcing rib (30) extending substantially along an extending direction of the coupling, and a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the coupling, wherein the coupling has reinforcing means formed by folding at least one reinforcing plate (18) (re claim 6), a terminal fitting made of a conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising: a main body, a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body and a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the coupling, wherein the coupling has reinforcing means formed by folding at least one flat reinforcing plate (18), and wherein the at least one flat reinforcing plate is placed on the coupling, the coupling and the reinforcing plate having displacement preventing means (22) engaged with each other for preventing displacements of the coupling and the reinforcing plate along a thickness direction and displacements along directions parallel to facing surfaces thereof (re claim 7), and the displacement preventing means including at least one cut (the cut next to the means 22) and at least one fastener (22) (re claim 11).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 8-10, 12-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
4. Claims 16-20 are allowed.

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Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 6 and 7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Communication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1980. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Chau N Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2831